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A
VOLUNTEER'S QUERIES

RING,

Humbly offered to

ALL DESCRIPTIONS
IN IRELAND

Whether it would not be more reasonable to mend
than to complain of it.; and how far this
is in our own power?

Whether it be not vain to think of persuading other
people to see their interest, while we continue blind to
our own?

Whether any art or manufacture be so difficult as the
making of good laws?

Whether my countrymen are not readier at finding ex-
cuses than remedies?

Whether the public aim ought not to be, that men's
industry should supply their present wants, and the
overplus be converted into a stock of power?

*The QUERIST; by Berkley, Bp. of Cloyne;
N^o 100, 137, 181, 274, & 311.*

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M DCC LXXX.






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VOLUNTEER'S QUERIES,

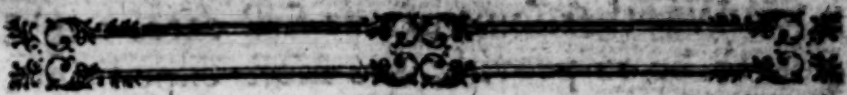
In SPRING, 1780.

*For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept;
line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a
little.*

Isa. xxviii. 10.

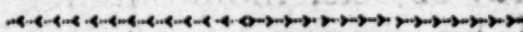
 If it shall be a question with any person who honours these Queries with a serious perusal ---- Why a Volunteer's? ---- May it not be a sufficient answer, That no person having so much as asked or desired, far less compelled, the author either to write or publish any one of them, Is he not, consequently, a Volunteer, in one of the least ambiguous senses of that word? ---- And is it either a more singular or improper thing for a man to write, than it would be to fight, without being called to it by lawful authority?

DUBLIN, ST. PATRICK'S DAY, 1780.



Q U E R I E S,

In SPRING, 1780,



1. **W**HETHER, at this moment, there is any nation or kingdom in Europe, that has the rational prospect of being so free and happy as Ireland may be, if true to her own interests, in the course of a few years?

2. Whether, however, this prospect which we have from the soil, situation, and other natural advantages of our country, and the great extensions just now granted to our trade can be realized, without general and vigorous exertions, on our part, to have our good laws well executed, some new ones enacted, a thorough reformation in our police, and all the various means of inciting to sobriety and industry attended to?

3. Whether

3. Whether some of our first cares ought not to be to provide the most expeditious and least expensive method, of compelling the payment of every just debt, to merchants and tradesmen especially; to amend the bankrupt act; to establish a proper watch for the city of Dublin; and to encourage the idea of a well regulated national bank?

4. Whether entering immediately upon these great objects, should hinder us from pursuing, by all proper and constitutional means, the entire emancipation of our laws and commerce, from every unnecessary, impolitic and degrading restraint—if, upon candid enquiry, it shall be found that any such yet exist?

5. Whether, with respect to Poyning's law, more should be wished for, by the most sanguine, than to have it cleared of those incumbrances (if any such there be) which are not necessarily connected with the due execution of an act framed for the security of Ireland, against arbitrary and oppressive governors?

6. Whether it is, at this moment, a real cause of complaint that Poyning's law is not yet repealed, if, at least, those independent men which compose the parliament
of

of Ireland are to be esteemed the most competent judges of such matters?

7. Whether it would really be an object of government to oppose the repeal of that law, should the parliament of Ireland desire it?

8. Whether, in case of its repeal, a substitute would not be necessary to secure the king's prerogative, and the peoples rights?

9. Whether such substitute could materially differ from the true spirit, real design and tendency of Poyning's law?

10. Whether it has proceeded from just and comprehensive ideas, or from various other causes; that some pains have been taken to alarm mens minds, and irritate their passions upon this subject; and whether it is wise, fair or prudent, to figure a refusal of our request before it is made?

11. Whether, as to the declaratory act, passed in the British parliament, of a power to bind Ireland in all cases whatever, it is possible, in the nature of things, to obtain a permanent repeal, by any other method than a solemn parliamentary declaration of our own rights; and whether any kind of threatenings, or delay of public business, can, now, or at any future time be necessary to effectuate this desirable issue?

12. Whether

12. Whether the British declaratory act has not become a mere shadow of that substance which is already transferred to us; and whether the shadow will not apparently follow the substance, when the mists which now surround the latter are dissipated?

13. Whether going too keenly in quest of the shadow, might not make us lose sight of that substance, which, as yet, we have but slightly perceived, and the complex nature of which we perhaps imperfectly comprehend?

14. Whether in the course of a violent struggle, the powers of action and re-action might not, too probably, operate to our disadvantage, and instead of bringing the shadow after the substance, drive back the substance to its now distant shadow?

15. Whether then, just now, to chase a complaint would not be to chase a shadow, and to chase it away; a shadow, too, which we wish to see in our own horizon, and must, if allowed, visit us in time, as those stars do, whose light have not yet travelled down to us, although still on the way, and assuredly will come?

16. Whether, to speak more plainly, it is even possible for the British parliament to give us what we seem to ask? Can the present

sent parliament bind any succeeding one? If not, must not our dependance be on our own powers, not our present, only, or even chiefly, but on future ones?

17. What present or future powers can we have without a Naval force; how shall we obtain a naval force without money; how acquire money without foreign trade; how shall we be able to push a foreign trade without that protection we must look to England for? Can the king, lords and commons of Ireland, grant that protection without the aid of the British parliament, which provides for the state expences?

18. Let us suppose, however, that, at this moment, we could, by our own Land, force, compel the British parliament to repeal its declaratory act; could we next moment ask their naval force to protect our trade and our coasts? If, then, that hated act must be considered as the badge of our slavery, is it not also, as yet, the price paid for our freedom and safety? And when these can be secured by ourselves, shall we then think it of any consequence whether such declarations are renounced or not? Do the king of France's proclamations bend the French king or his subjects? And yet is the French king able, even at this day, to to compel the king of Great Britain and Ireland to renounce his nomi-

nal title to the kingdom of France? When shall Ireland become as powerful as France now is? can this happen until by the joint powers of Britain and Ireland, France shall be humbled? Or until both Britain and France have died of old age?

19. Is it not natural, and is it not also but fair, at this time, to compare our situation with that part of Great Britain called Scotland; is not Scotland a sister kingdom; was she not, before the union, as independent of England as Ireland ever was or could be, in a legal sense; had she not a parliament, a revenue, and force of her own; is she not, now, without a parliament of her own, bound by the acts of the British parliament; without a revenue of her own, bound for the debts of England; without a force by land or sea of her own, dependant upon, and protected by the forces of Great Britain? Has not Ireland now acquired an equal extension of trade with Scotland; has she not still her own parliament, her own revenue, her own land-forces; is she bound for a shilling of Great Britain's debt; and is not her trade as well protected as that of Scotland; did Scotland do more than give to England a king, and afterwards consented to have the two kingdoms united; and did Ireland do less than cede a kingdom to the crown of England,
under

under such circumstances, and upon such conditions as may, at this day, be differently understood by wise and honest men: is it then reasonable that Ireland should expect every mark and degree of independence, before she really feels herself independent, and able to compel the acknowledgment of it?

20. As to the jurisdiction of our house of Peers—Are not the peers of Ireland their own representatives; who then are their constituents, or those entitled and qualified to instruct them; are they not the best judges of their own rights; or is it to be doubted that, with the wisdom and dignity which becomes their high rank and consequence, they will, as they see cause, assert them?

21. Is the illiberal abuse which recently has been so abundantly poured out against a certain noble duke, for acting in his proper sphere, with that dignity of sentiment, that loyalty to his prince, that wisdom for his country, which became his exalted station; which, to his immortal honour, was explanatory of the uncommon zeal and attention with which he had exerted himself in the people's concerns, in every shape that his rank, fortune, and sincere patriotism, could inspire: is it calculated to induce noblemen, ever jealous of their own ho-

nour (without which that of their country cannot be supported), either, in future, to engage themselves deeply in the people's cause, without extraordinary caution, or to submit the canvassing of their own rights and privileges to the humours of the people, or the humours of a day?

22. Whether it is agreeable to reason, to the constitution, and the dignity of parliament, that any member of parliament should pledge himself for more than a respectful attention to the instructions of his constituents?

23. Whether the representative of any one county or borough does not, upon taking his seat in parliament, become one of the representatives and judges for the whole kingdom, and not for his electors only?

24. Whether then a member of parliament can, with propriety, in any case, confine his views to the humours or particular interests of those only who elected him, or who may have it in their power to elect or reject him at some future time?

25. Whether, should the electors of representatives of the city of Cork petition parliament for an exclusive right of trade to and from America and the West Indies, because they are best situated for carrying it on to advantage, and instruct their representatives

representatives to support their petition, would it be the duty of these members to pay an implicit obedience to such a request? Or if the electors of the province of Ulster should petition for an exclusive right to the linen manufacture, and instruct their representatives to support that petition with all their might and influence, would it be the duty of such representatives to comply with the desire of the petitioners?

26. Whether the electors of any particular member can be sustained better judges of any great national object or question, than the majority of electors throughout the kingdom, or the majority of parliament after a full and free debate?— And, in a word—

27. Whether it is not, perhaps, a breach of the privilege of parliament, for any one member to acknowledge that those who elected him have a right to dictate what his conduct or vote in parliament shall be, in any particular case?

28. Whether it is consistent with the freedom and dignity of parliament, to receive even instructions, only, from any body of armed men, distinguished as such from their fellow citizens:—And whether, in the natural course of things, there be any difference between instructions so circumstanced,

stanced, and absolute commands; especially from men who do not petition either for pay, cloathing, or quarters?

29. Whether any such thing hath lately happened in Ireland; and whether any well-informed, candid, and independent man has approved thereof?

30. Whether the armed Volunteer bodies of Ireland are not now entitled to public thanks, for the spirited and orderly conduct they have shewn; and to a parliamentary dismissal from all other cares and solitudes, than such as may yet be necessary to preserve internal peace and to repel the invasions of foreign foes?

31. Whether, if not so far discharged from their present avocations and expensive labours, the consequences may not be ruinous to many of themselves and their families, and also to the kingdom at large, by the idleness and dissipation which even witnessing of their exercises occasions among the lower ranks of people?

32. Whether in continuing to busy ourselves about the shadows of security, power, and significance, we do not risque losing sight of the substance which was, or ought to have been, the true end of all our pursuits?

33. Whe-

33. Whether a general Naturalization bill be not a liberal and well-timed motion?

34. Whether, however, it should not be limited to Christians of all denominations, Mahometans, and Pagans?

35. Whether the Jews could or would bring any thing into the kingdom, other than money to lend at exorbitant interest; trinkets to dispose of at extravagant gains; schemes to set us all a jobbing in the public funds; arts to wash, sweat, and clip our current coin; and a skilful traffic in exchange and re-exchange, for their own profit, and at the nation's expence?

36. Whether, in consequence, our trade would not be marred, and such a jumble introduced as would destroy the true barometers of commerce, which are a just proportion of ready money, and those rates of exchange which the nature and extent of our trade would bring along with them?

37. Whether, precluded, as they must be, from purchasing lands, it is to be supposed they would deal in export and import like other men; or that, in general, they would not rather, with all their effects in ready cash, decamp as soon as by fortunate frauds they had filled their pockets?

38. Whe-

38. Whether it is altogether a clear point, that their religion, with the free exercise of it, should be no objection to their admission into Ireland; especially as it will hardly be alleged, that the morals of any nation hath been improved by much intercourse with them?

39. Whether, in any point of view, it would be sound policy to admit so distinct a people into a free government, from which, in case of their future bad behaviour, it might not be so easy to banish them as under an absolute monarchy it would?

40. Whether, if after all, it should be thought proper to naturalize the Jews, it would not be reasonable to make them pay a high fine for that privilege, to be applied, in the first place, to the extinction of the national debt?

41. Whether all the money wanted on credit, for the necessary improvements in agriculture, the carrying on manufactures, and the extension of foreign trade, may not, with the greatest ease and safety and at the lowest interest, be supplied by a properly-established and well-regulated National Bank?

42. Whether for the prosperity of trade it is not necessary, that the interest of money

ney be reduced to five per cent. per ann. and good foreign bills discounted at four per cent. ; and whether either can, *for a course of years*, be accomplished without a national bank ?

43. What should be understood by a national bank further than this, that at granting the charter, parliament should become bound to make good to the public a sum not exceeding £ (due regard being had to the sum actually paid in) upon these following conditions—1. That the bank should not exact above five per cent. per ann. of interest for advance of money.—2. That they should not divide above per cent. per ann. profits upon the capital subscribed, for the first seven years; nor more than per cent. at any future period, until the whole capital subscribed is actually paid up, either by calls, or out of the undivided surplus profits.—3. That they should annually submit an exact state of their affairs, signed by the proper officers, to a committee of parliament to be chosen by ballot.—4. That they should not lend money upon doubtful security, or suffer, at any one period, an advance of more than £ sterl. upon government security, or at a lower interest than per cent. per ann. ; with this stipulation, that a failure in all, or any of these articles, being

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proved

proved to the satisfaction of parliament upon complaint by the inspectors, shall be deemed a sufficient reason for withdrawing the parliamentary support, and for compelling the directors of the bank in whose time such infringements happen, to make good the damage to the bank, if any loss has been sustained, either through carelessness or design?

44. Whether any member of parliament should hold any office in the bank, or be admitted into the direction thereof?

45. Whether it would not be proper that there should always be two lawyers, of character in business and independent fortune, in the direction?

46. Whether it would not be of singular use in this country, that the bank should, besides the business of discounting, advance money upon cash accounts, from £200 to £2000, upon sufficient security, to be drawn for in such sums, and at such times, as the person, in whose favour a credit to any certain extent is given, finds most convenient; the lowest draught to be £20; and repaid in like manner, the bank charging interest *de die in diem*?

47. Whether, with such a convenient and cheap mode of supply, the landholder could not improve his estate, the merchant
carry

carry on his trade, the tradesman pay his bills, and manufacturers and builders pay their men's wages, so as to enable the first to reap the highest advantages from his property, and the rest to serve the community, each, in the way of his profession, upon the most reasonable terms ?

48. Whether the security with which it is absolutely necessary for adventurers in a bank to carry on business successfully, may not require some alteration in our laws, in order to compel the payment of all debts due to them, in the most safe, expeditious, and least expensive way : and whether even some preference should not be given to bank debts, at least with respect to those due by original subscribers, especially respecting the calls which may be made for paying up their subscriptions ?

49. Whether a National Bank should be at liberty to accept of a mortgage, otherwise than as collateral security for money advanced ?

50. Whether it might not be fit to advance money upon pledges of plate and jewels, under certain limitations and restrictions ?

51. Whether it would not prove a real conveniency to the public, that the bank
C 2 should



should issue notes as low as a guinea in value?

52. Whether such issue of small notes would not greatly increase and secure an extensive and profitable circulation?

53. Whether such a constitution of a bank can take its proper rise in any other mode than that of private subscription?

54. Whether, to prevent undue influence, the number of shares to be held by any one person should be allowed to exceed , a vote for chusing the directors being annexed to each share?

55. Whether, for security of bank stock, any transfer of stock should be made, until after application in writing to the directors, and their consent be signified by their secretary in favour of the person who makes the purchase?

56. Whether, to prevent jobbing, a certain allowance, not under per cent. of the capital subscribed, should not be charged upon every share transferred, and applied to the credit of the proprietors at large; and whether this should not be paid down by the person who makes the transfer, before the same be recorded in the books, or delivery of an extract thereof?

57. Whether, to prevent embarrassment to the bank, and disappointment to the merchant,

merchant, a national bank should not be tied up, not to engage in the business of exchange, unless, perhaps, with the bank of England, and the bank of Scotland, far less in any article of trade?

58. Whether foreign trade can be pushed to any considerable extent without a bank, whose interest it is to advance money to any amount upon sufficient security, and where private friendship is not necessary to ensure success upon application?

59. Whether in the prosecution of ship-building, fisheries, coal-works, salt-works, iron and other mines, founderies and other great undertakings, such a bank would not be absolutely necessary?

60. Whether, the extent of our trade considered, and especially how far it now may and ought to be pushed, the establishment of such a Bank would really prove injurious to any one banking house which now supplies and enjoys the confidence of the public?

61. Whether, on the contrary, it is not a certain fact, that no private banking house, hitherto established, hath, uniformly on all occasions, been both able and willing to advance the necessary supplies, even upon the most unquestionable security?

62. Whether,

62. Whether, too, it is not highly necessary to provide against the inconveniences and loss which might happen to the public, should the private banking business fall, at any future time, into hands less capable of managing it, and less deserving of public confidence than those who now distinguish themselves in that line?

63. Whether any bounds, and how far, to, such should be set, by parliament, to the issuing of bank notes upon any given sum paid in, and proportionably upon further deposits by the subscribers?

64. Whether all deposits ought not to be made in gold and silver, current coin; if this can be done without the danger of making a run upon any private banker of good character?

65. Whether, in order to bring money into this country, there should not be a clause in the charter, empowering the proprietors or adventurers to borrow in such sums as should be offered to them, and, for a limited time, to be ascertained by the directors for the time being, to the extent of £ and in sums not less than £ from any one person or body corporate, at an annual interest of *three pounds per centum*, payable half yearly; and whether the banking society should not be bound
to

to accept of money lodged for pious uses, to some certain extent, and at an interest, always one per cent. per ann. below the legal, to be drawn out, as need shall require, in sums not less than £20 at one time?

66. Whether this would not be providing the best security, at a sufficient premium, for many sums, which now are less safely, and, perhaps, less profitably employed?

67. Whether (besides different societies in our own country) it might not encourage men of substance in England, and Holland, to pursue great national objects in this country, by having the conveniency of so lodging their money upon the spot, and who, during the progress of the arts or trade they might be employed in, might, upon the security of their own deposits, have cash-credits to an equal or less extent upon paying the usual interest?

68. Whether the two extremes of too little or too great a circulation of paper credit, are not alike dangerous in a country, happily situated for the improvement of agriculture, the manufactures of flax and wool, the establishment of fishing companies and foreign trade, particularly to America and the West Indies?

69. Whether

69. Whether a chartered banking company, with proper regulations, doth not bid fairest to supply every real demand upon the easiest terms; and, with fewer temptations than private bankers have, to push the circulation too far, may we not expect, from such a society, a circulation proportioned to the real necessities of the public?

70. Whether a power of making bye-laws, for the proper regulation of a banking society, be not a necessary clause in their charter; and whether, for the satisfaction of the public, those first agreed upon, should not be printed and published?

71. What sum would it be necessary to subscribe, as sufficient for the trade and necessities of the country; and how much of this sum should be deposited before issuing notes?

72. Supposing £500,000 to be subscribed, whether 20 per centum, or one fifth part, would not be sufficient for the first call?

73. Whether it would not best accommodate the public to cast off notes for £100, £50, £20, £10, £5, £1, British sterling, and one Guinea, payable to the bearer on demand; and that all accompts in the bank should be kept in British money?

74. Whether for the further accommodation of the public, in making remittances to the country, with the greatest safety, the

the bank should not issue, when called for, bank post bills for any particular sum wanted, payable at some few days sight, and to pass like bills of exchange, by indorsement?

75. Whether it should not be felony to forge or counterfeit any of the bank notes, or post bills?

76. Whether, in case of invasion by foreigners, or other public calamities, any greater danger would arise to the kingdom by the establishment of such a bank, than would happen without it?

77. Whether, all circumstances considered, the establishment and success of such a bank, at Dublin, would not tend to the real safety of the nation's property in any given case?

78. Whether any officer of the bank should have above £300 of salary, and whether the amount of salaries, together with house-rent, coal and candle, for the first seven years, at least, should exceed £2000 per ann?

79. Whether, however, it should not be double officered in some of the principal departments; and whether every officer of the bank should not be totally debarred from carrying on, or being concerned either jointly or separately in any other sort of business whatever; and also exempted

by law from all city and parochial public services ?

80. Whether, with or without a bank, it is not of the highest concernment to have a well regulated police ; and whether parliament can be better employed in their country's cause, than in following out this object ; which they seem to have sincerely at heart ?

81. Whether combinations among tradesmen of any rank have not a most pernicious and ruinous tendency, at all times, but especially in the infancy of manufactures ?

82. Whether, without encroaching on the liberty of the subject, master tradesmen, and Manufacturers might not be laid under a legal necessity, easily compellable, of acting upon fair and liberal terms with respect to their journeymen and apprentices ?

83. Whether a method might not be devised, by which masters, without incurring too much expence, would have it in their power to reward the diligent, sober and ingenious servant, and, with safety, denying the same rewards to the idle, disorderly and careless ; and whether a steady attention to this plan, would not be attended with infinitely better effects than prisons and punishments ?

84. Whether

84. Whether masters, who give a false character of any servant to any person whatever, should not, on proof of the same, by two sufficient witnesses, be subjected to a fine for the benefit of the house of industry, besides the expence of prosecution, to be sued for by any person aggrieved, or any concerned in the management of that house?

85. Whether upon any riot or outrage, committed by journeymen and apprentices, the corporation, or corporations which these rioters, or any two of them, belong to, should not, out of their corporation funds, if they have any, or otherwise the masters, personally, out of their own pockets, be obliged by law to repair the damage, or indemnify the sufferers?

86. Whether, among many other reasons which might be adduced, for having a city watch by *day* as well as night, uniformly cloathed, and completely armed, that of preventing, in future, such violent outrages as have lately, in various instances, happened in the face of the sun, ought not to be considered as a very material one?

87. Whether, for the general quiet and safety of the inhabitants, for assisting the sheriff in his laborious, dangerous and degrading services, and for attending him in

the final execution of the law, such a watch is not highly necessary?

88. Whether 500 stout men would not be sufficient; and whether these might not be officered, cloathed, armed, and supplied with ammunition, coal, and candle, at a cheaper rate than the inhabitants now pay for only a night-watch, such as it is?

89. Whether the establishment of such a watch would not encourage necessary and useful hands to settle among us; and even give force to the naturalization act?

90. Whether, however, it is of any real advantage to trade and manufactures, that those arts which require much house-room, much back ground, many hands, great quantities of cheap provisions, to the prosperity of which arts, sobriety and diligence are peculiarly necessary, should be carried on in great cities, where house-rents and ground are dear, where provisions of several kinds must be dear also, where the most simple productions of the country, such as potatoes, milk, eggs, &c. are certainly dearest, and where the temptations to idleness and dissipation of all kinds are undoubtedly greatest?

91. Whether, now that we have a free trade to all parts of the world, it will not be a matter well worth considering, at what ports and places in Ireland new establishments

ments should be made, as well for prosecuting those arts we are already well acquainted with, as for recovering some long forgotten, and attempting new ones?

92. Whether it is not of material consequence to all land-holders, and those especially who have property in or about country towns and villages, where fire, water, and provisions are in plenty, to see arts and manufactures begun, or carried on to greater extent, in such situations, and to give every possible encouragement to settlers?

93. Whether the thoughts of this, so far from diverting, should not rather enforce the idea of procuring, by all legal exertions and liberal sentiments, a substantial and respectable yeomanry?

94. Whether, without a good yeomanry, the country can be properly cultivated, or such a supply of corn, cattle, and provisions raised, as would, from occupiers of ground, either increase the landlords rents, and render them permanent, or secure to artists and manufacturers of all kinds, provisions at so cheap a rate, as would encourage industry, promote population, and infallibly raise the value of ground, and insure that value to every succeeding heir?

95. Whether, as a beginning to higher improvements, the common people (not excepting

cepting common beggars) might not, with small occasional exertions of gentlemen, be shamed out of their slovenly and dirty appearances, were it only to have their faces and hands washed, their heads combed, and their rags stitched up into some degree of a less indecent appearance?

96. Whether a horse undressed will fatten as easily, or shew the same spirit, as one whose hide is well curried; or if ever a cow, without a clean skin, would feed well, give much milk, or bring forth young as often as might be wished?

97. Whether we may reasonably look for what is called common honesty, for truth, for sobriety, for industry, for a fear of shame, or any regard to character, from beings endowed with human powers, while they continue disguised in filth and rags, not to speak of drink?

98. Whether a glass of whiskey, calculated to intoxicate at the smallest expence, which any man, in comfortable circumstances, would regard and avoid as poison, is not, too generally, grasped at by those poor wretched creatures, as a luxurious feast, or the highest gratification which they think their depressed state can admit of, and by which they are enabled, from time to time, to forget their miseries, forget that they are reasonable and accountable creatures,

tures, or that they have more to care for than the beasts of the field : and is there a breast so steeled against the feelings of humanity, as not to deplore so complete a brutification of the human nature, especially in a land flowing with milk and honey ?

99. Whether it ought not to be a very interesting object with country gentlemen, that their tenants of the lowest rank should, at least, have wholesome, if not substantial, houses to eat and sleep in ; and whether they should not have fire enough for dressing their potatoes, if no better provisions can be had ?

100. Whether, to this end, more planting of trees be not necessary ?

101. Whether, in every view, the planting of more trees would not be profitable, as well as ornamental ?

102. Whether ship-building would not be a most rational and profitable branch of trade in this kingdom ; and whether this can be attempted with success, while all the wood necessary must be imported from foreign countries ?

103. Whether it would be a good argument against the expence and trouble of planting and preserving wood, that posterity must reap the best fruits of it ; do we
not

not stake our lives and fortunes to procure or transmit liberty and property to our posterity ?

104. Whether, or how long, can we suppose the liberty and property of Irishmen to remain secure, without some ships of war (frigates at least) for the protection of our trade ; and whether, in this view, it would not be true patriotism to plant oaks and other sorts of timber ?

105. Whether one kind of improvement does not naturally lead on to another ; and whether every kind of improvement of which the capital of this island is capable, should not be seriously considered and set about without delay ?

106. Whether the dirtiness of the streets of this metropolis, both paved and flagged ways, does not at all times strike every passenger with surprise, and sometimes terror ; and whether, notwithstanding the spirited and extraordinary exertions of our present worthy Lord Mayor, there is any great likelihood of an amendment, until either the scavengers are put on some footing different from what they have ever been, or, at least, some new regulations are made, whereby it will become more practicable for the injured inhabitants to complain, and obtain speedy redress ?

107. Is it to be expected, or indeed possible, for the Lord Mayor to traverse, continually, the streets of Dublin, and keep the scavengers at work ; or to fine the inhabitants, who should keep clean the flag-way opposite their own doors ? — But,

108. Might not the scavengers be compelled to begin their work at early hours, have the streets in decent order before nine or ten o'clock in the morning, the dirt gathered in heaps, in place of being swept into the kennels for carrying off the water, and fined for neglect of duty ; might there not be a court for hearing complaints against house and shop keepers who neglect their own doors, where they might be fined for disobedience, and the fines given to the informers, who would generally be the scavengers, to which useful office they should be thus encouraged ; and might not the carters be compelled to carry off the dirt, from all parts before eleven o'clock in the morning, especially when less mixed than formerly with the water of the kennels, and less scattered about by the splashing of coaches and cars through it ?

109. In place of paying carters to carry off the dirt, is it not practicable to have it so carefully collected as to become an object for farmers and graziers to pay for it, and that it should thus become an article of city
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revenue;

revenue, rather than expence; is not this the case in some other cities?

110. Would it not, in the mean time, be an easy matter to insert in the Dublin Directory, lists of the scavengers names and places of abode, of the church-wardens or other officers, to whom complaint should be made of the scavengers neglect of duty, and the names and places of abode of carters or carmen, who could be called on and compelled, for payment, to carry off what has been by others neglected?

111. Would not the establishment of such a watch as has been mentioned, greatly facilitate the due execution of such laws and regulations as are, or may be made, for removing nuisances, and keeping the streets sweet and clean? — And,

112. Would not the due execution of this service mightily contribute to prevent epidemical diseases, to preserve at all times the health, as well as prove otherwise comfortable to the numerous inhabitants of this metropolis?

113. Would it not be very proper that chairmen and hackney-coachmen should be furnished, at their own expence, with printed copies of their regulations, made out in the fullest manner, and obliged, under a penalty, to produce them when called for; and

and, it being evident, that many impositions and trespasses are not complained of, by reason of the time that elapses, and the trouble occasioned before an offender can be convicted; would it not, therefore, be very desirable, if at all practicable, that there should be different offices for receiving complaints, and an hour's hearing of such, thrice a week, at least, if not every day and hour, from ten in the morning, until ten at night?

114. Whether it is sufficiently practicable, and if it were, whether it is decent and proper that the sheriffs should continue saddled with the harassing and dangerous service of seizing, in person, rioters, robbers and murderers, at all places and hours, by day or night, even supposing them better assisted than as yet they are, to the total neglect of their private affairs, add with eminent danger to their lives; and would not a proper city watch, under its own officers, men of character, give the most safe and effectual aid in apprehending all such desperate violaters of the public peace, as well as suppressing accidental riots and tumults?

115. Whether the frauds committed by bakers and butchers are sufficiently punished, by accidental seizures of light bread, and blown meat; and whether ex-

posting their names, and places of abode, in the public papers, which might be thought no more than a piece of justice done to the injured citizens, and a needful caution to them, would not be the most effectual remedy against the continuance of such abuses?

116. Whether it were not becoming a city, where christianity, and that of the protestant kind too, is the established profession of religion, that something like a sacred regard were held, in the whole of our conduct, to Sunday?

117. Whether the church doors, being open to all, and seats to the better sort of folk, be sufficient?

118. Whether decency in dress and behaviour, sobriety of mind, and industry throughout the week, have not, among the common people, a real connection with, and dependance upon the religious observations of Sunday?

119. Whether a well regulated and strictly enforced police, in the city of Dublin, would not spread its salutary influences all over Ireland?

120. Whether turnpike roads be a public nuisance, and, if so, is it impossible to find a remedy?

121. Are

121. Are not turnpike roads one of the glories of England, and why may they not be so in Ireland?

122. Whether there is not a great deal of money levied in Ireland for making and maintaining roads; and whether methods may not be devised of procuring a proper application of that money?

123. Whether it is not, evidently, more just and reasonable that the roads, in the neighbourhood of a large city, should be made and kept in repair by tolls collected from the real occupiers of these roads, than by county assessments, which are a burden upon the poorest of the people, and those who are, at best, only sharers in the benefit of good roads?

124. Whether, in the neighbourhood of great cities, the roads are not much frequented by ladies and gentlemen, for airings, both in carriages and horseback, (especially on Sundays) which being conducive to health and pleasure, they certainly cannot grudge paying for, although they have neither eggs nor butter-milk to sell?

125. Whether, as trade must now put on a new face, post chaises, post coaches, the regular out-set and return of cars, and in time even waggons, will not become necessary for a speedy and stated intercourse
between

between the principal cities and parts in Ireland,—it does not also follow that turn-pike roads must become more and more an object of great importance and attention?

126. Whether, for the same reason, the most serious attention is not due to the improvement of navigable canals?

127. Whether the practice of duelling be necessary, or even a useful custom for a nation emerging from a restrained to a free trade, especially while wisely opening her arms to settlers from all nations, some of whom, possibly, have not, precisely, the same ideas of honour (in its modern signification) as the people of this kingdom seem to have?

128. Whether a combat, circumstanced as that which we distinguish by the name of *duel*, was ever fought by the Greeks or Romans, or, indeed, by any nation in succeeding ages, until within these two or three centuries past; and, yet, will any body say that the Greeks and Romans wanted either courage or a sense of honour?

129. In what book of religion, law, morals, or history, is honour defined, with a challenge for its protection, or the acceptance of one for its defence; and are the modern ideas, affixed to that word, sacred in proportion as they are accidental, ambiguous,

ous, and incapable justification from any unquestionable authority?

130. Is there any written law, divine or human, which commands, or even allows a man to vindicate his honour, or resent his private wrongs, real or imaginary, at the hazard of his own life, or that of his antagonist, unless we go back to the times of ignorance and barbarism, for a pattern in judicial combats,—however ill these apply?

131. Has duelling, in its present form, and even when provoked by the grossest affronts, any other or higher sanction than that of long established custom, in some few enlightened countries?

132. Can custom, alone, be considered as a justifiable rule of conduct, in any other than matters of indifference?

133. Is it a matter of indifference to put to death my dearest friend, to render his amiable wife a wretched, comfortless widow, and his helpless children fatherless; or to plunge him into the commission, with all the shocking reflections, which, to a humane mind, must follow, of having precipitated me and mine into those deplorable circumstances?

134. If, with these aggravations, duelling ought to be considered as contrary to good

good nature and humanity, is it not a crime against society; and if a crime, in *any* case, is it not a crime, to a certain high degree, in *every* case; especially if we consider the grounds and reasons which generally occasion that mode of pretended satisfaction, or redress of wrongs?

135. Upon what grounds, then, can it be supposed any jury would acquit a man for killing, in what is called a fair duel, his fellow creature; understanding, by a fair duel, a challenge given and accepted of, or a certain common method of fighting with sword or pistol?

136. Can a premeditated design to kill or suffer death, annihilate the crime of murder; what says the law; or what material difference does it make to the sufferer, whether he meets death at the distance of ten inches or ten yards from his murderer; whether by a dagger, a sword, a stone or a pistol; whether it was done with the coolness of a philosopher, or the rage of a madman; whether with the insensibility of an idiot, or those signs of concern and reluctance which genuine nature must dictate and discover?

137. Whether the wrongs, resented by challengers to fight, are not, generally, such as no law, divine or human, hath yet constituted crimes?

138. Whether

138. Whether men, not daring to dispute the tyranny of custom, and at the same time the absurdity of it, have not sometimes accepted of challenges and fought, not for any injury done or intended by them, but for doing that which reason, good sense, and integrity, required at their hands; and whether it is not generally believed, that there lately happened a very remarkable instance of this kind?

139. Whether, if the laws in any case allow of remedy, the contempt of law should be deemed honourable; and whether the expence or delays of law can, here, be pleaded as any excuse for not having recourse to it?

140. Whether the ties of honour are of one kind only, and if honour, in its highest resentments, is confined to ideal wrongs?

141. Whether a true sense of honour does not necessarily include the virtues (while life by nature's law is permitted) of a tender husband, an affectionate parent, a constant guardian to wife and children, a dutiful son, a loving brother, a sincere and steady friend, a just, humane, and charitable member of society?

142. Whether the regular, the necessary exercise of those virtues, should lye at the mercy of a mere man of honour, who per-

haps has but one sort of claim to that title, and, in every other respect, may be considered as a scoundrel, a fool, or a madman ?

143. Whether a man of honour would bring his friend, or even a stranger, to account, for calling him adulterer, blasphemer, or murderer ?

144. Whether men are not every day called to account, only for saying, at, perhaps, one unlucky minute, what all the world believes at all times to be true ; and whether a duel, upon this ground, does not make virtue bow the knee to vice and impudence ?

145. Whether, however, it does not require more courage to decline a duel than to fight it ; and whether it is agreeable to reason or common sense, that men of true courage and exemplary virtue should ever be put to this humiliating trial ?

146. Whether, when a real offence is committed, it would not be more honourable for the offender to make a candid acknowledgment, than, under the pretence of giving satisfaction, stake two lives, and all the consequences of untimely death, upon the cast of a die ?

147. Whether it should not be deemed premeditated murder, and render a man infamous, to refuse an explicit acknowledgment

ment from any offender willing to give it ; and whether an open and explicit acknowledgment of an offence committed, or of a fact which gave offence, can, in reason, be considered as meanness of spirit, more than it would be to acknowledge an error in the casting of an account, the reckoning of money, or an accidental slip in the execution of any business in life ?

148. Whether even begging of pardon may not be honourably offered, or complied with, if required, in presence and with the approbation of two common friends ; and whether it ever ought to be required, with less coolness and attention, to the real honour of both parties ? — Is a mistaken pride to be justified ?

149. Whether to do otherwise is not, upon all occasions, subjecting those to the greatest insult and danger who are the least deserving of either, and degrading the lion to a level with the ass ?

150. Is not the common sense of mankind continually employed, in distinguishing between the nature and extent of crimes, and the resentments or punishments which those crimes deserve ; and, if there is any difference in the enormity of crimes, shall chance alone, or the mere fancy of individuals, determine upon that difference ?

151. To any man who has ever spent a thought upon the matter, can there be any thing new in all this reasoning, or which can admit of answers still to justify the practice of duelling?

152. Whether the securing of titles, rights, and properties, be not the constant objects of law; and whether men's lives may not be as useful to the state (not to speak of their own families), as their titles, rights, and properties are?

153. How then is it to be accounted for, that a custom so whimsical and so disgraceful to human nature, so inimical to wise laws and the peace of society, so cruel to the friends and relations of individuals, and so entirely incapable of yielding any *rational satisfaction*, should have prevailed so long, and found its votaries in almost every rank of life; is it because no remedy can be found? — Is it not rather because none have been sought, or sought where best to be found, with sufficient ardor?

154. Does not the parliament of Ireland make laws for the qualifications of its own members; and are there not crimes which *disqualify* too?

155. Doth not parliament make laws for the punishment of crimes, and even make that a crime which before passing the statute was none; would it then be beneath the
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the dignity, or unbecoming the wisdom of parliament, to make laws for preventing of crimes—laws which, with honour, and in spite of honour, could bind themselves; and although made for the regulation of their own conduct only, as members of parliament, would they not infallibly spread their friendly influences over the whole land: what more necessary then (if, with sufficient humility and respect to that august assembly, such a thing may even be hinted at, until conveyed in the constitutional instructions of the gentlemen, clergy, and freeholders, &c.) but that by a law to be made, a member fighting a duel, with or without challenge given, should, when proved to the satisfaction of that honourable house by such mode as to the wisdom of parliament shall seem meet, thereby vacate his seat, and be declared incapable of electing or being elected in all time to come; and that, on proof brought of any new-elected member having fought a duel, the same should annul the election?

156. Shall not the clergy back this proposal with their seasonable prayers, exempted as they themselves are from the tyranny of some customs, through respect to their habit?

157. Should not the gallant Irish Volunteers, whose honour and courage none can doubt, deign their hearty concurrence to
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this *one* attempt against the use of arms, by which means too, if carried into effect, many of their own valuable lives may be prolonged to avenge their country's wrongs, more honourable, surely, than either to kill or be killed in the act of resenting private injuries, however great (alas! how small generally) the provocation may be?

158. And may it not be hoped that gentlemen at large, merchants, manufacturers, revenue officers, &c. &c. should, cordially, agree to the abolition of a custom, which, at all times, must rather shock their humanity than prove their courage, and which, at no time, can yield that satisfaction which becomes a reasonable soul?

159. What more, then, would be necessary than that, in the law already pointed at, no man convicted of having fought a duel, should, afterwards, be capable of electing, or being elected, to a seat in parliament,—of sitting as a jury-man at the assizes,—voting at corporation meetings,—or of being inrolled a member of any society, whose object is, or may be, the defence and protection of the liberties sacred and civil of Ireland?

160. Whether a law of this kind would not execute itself; and, if so, whether, there can be a stronger argument in its favour?

161. Whether it were fit and necessary
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to impose the same restraints upon *seconds* ; whether, supposing these liable to the same disabilities with the principals in a duel, the proof of their real intentions would not be more difficult ?

162. Whether subjecting seconds to like or greater penalties with principals, would not, in most cases, be nugatory, because those sentiments of attachment and friendship which take full possession of generous minds, and do honour, even in their excesses, to the human heart, would often rise superior to all personal considerations, and the more so as the danger, in this case, is of two kinds: first, that of leaving a friend to perish without a witness, or necessary aid; and next, a participation, only, of the pains of law ?

163. Whether, consequently, it were not prudent, if such a law, with respect to principals, should merit the attention of parliament, that seconds should be subjected to no penalties or disabilities—as then, such as might, at any time, be called on to do that office, would be at full liberty, without bringing their friendship or courage in question, to act as mediators between parties, and as disinterested advocates for the due force of law ?

164. Whether the passing of such a law would tend to the increase or diminution of
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of those kinds of differences, affronts, and offences, which by the present mode of thinking, cannot be terminated without a duel?

165. Whether it is not most likely that it would tend to their diminution between persons of equal rank, because the generous man (a suspicion of want of courage being out of the question) would regard his friends stake with cool attention, and the prudent man would regard his own?

166. Whether, at least, this would not be the case, when passion and revenge have no share in the challenge given, or provoked; and whether many duels are not fought without any passion, or desire of revenge?

167. Whether respect and obedience to laws, which are founded in justice and humanity, ought not, and would not, soon, come to be regarded as points of honour, preferably to those which set all laws, divine and human, all the most sacred ties of nature, and of friendship at defiance?

168. Whether, at least, the experiment is not worth trying; and whether, if tried, doors would not open, from every quarter, to facilitate the honourable accommodation of differences?

169. Considering the connection and mutual dependance which men in society, have
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on each other, would not love, friendship, and self-interest combine to render every man the guardian of his neighbour's life, the comfort of his friends and family, and, at same time, the guardian or support of own present or future interests?

170. Whether it should be considered as an objection to, or a recommendation of this proposal, that it has never yet been formally made by duke, bishop, knight of the shire, or secretary of state?

171. Whether all the bad effects of duelling are confined to those which immediately spring from particular instances of duels actually fought and blood shed; are not the minds of the uneducated vulgar betrayed and hardened, from what they consider as examples set by their betters; do they not, from these examples, give place to unruly passions, which end in blood and barbarity; have they not, thereby, pretences for wearing of fire arms, which they seldom make a good use of—often the worst imaginable; does this stand in need of proof; and, to say no worse, are not fatal accidents, at this day, more common in Ireland than in any other kingdom in Europe; is not a reformation then necessary, and where can it begin, with most propriety and success?

172. Is there a nation in the world where the practice of duelling prevails more, if indeed so much, as in Ireland?

173. Is there a nation in Europe to which trade and all the arts of peace are more necessary, at this day, than to Ireland; and whether the practice of duelling be not diametrically opposite to the spirit of trade, those arts of peace which best provide against necessities of war, and that cool-headed, manly courage, which bid fairest for success in war?

174. Would it then be an unjust reproach to say, that to persist in this error were an Irish blunder?

175. Would it, in the esteem of any virtuous, peaceable minded man, degrade that celebrated patriot and orator, who declared *against all temporizing expedients*, and for a *Free Trade*, to declare against the absurd custom of duelling, and for the *free exercise of every human power and faculty under the guidance of law, reason and common sense*?

176. Would the late Attorney General have objected to this motion, had he been alive at the making of it; or is there any reason to apprehend opposition from his very worthy and not *less proved* successor?

177. Has not the late patriotic fever, universally felt in this kingdom, wrought the
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the desired effect, in clearing the commercial system from that load of morbid matter, which had well nigh starved and withered every particular member of it; have not men's minds, in consequence, acquired new powers of perception and action; and is not *this*, therefore, the time, while still our pulses beat high in our country's cause—is not *this* the time for making cool and candid reflections upon what is past, encouraging the most comfortable hopes of good things to come; and above all, before our fervours fail, to lay a foundation in good laws and firm resolutions, well digested, before entered into, for a thorough improvement of every natural, political and commercial advantage which we now enjoy?

178. Have not the *commercial restraints of Ireland considered, in a series of letters to a noble lord*, met with the attention wished for, in the author's concluding elegant address of Hibernia to her elder Sister?

179. Have not various other sorts of addresses to different descriptions of men among ourselves, met with all the success that wisdom could expect, and moderation desire?

180. Have not those marks of dependence, with which we still reckon ourselves fettered, been fairly and clearly animad-

verted on by the author of *Seasonable Advice to the People of Ireland, during the present Recess of Parliament*; who shews (notwithstanding some well-penned arguments of Sheridan and Dobbs, for the necessity of removing them) that we have less to fear by leaving them to exist, as they now do, shorn of their power to hurt materially, than we ought to apprehend from a violent attempt to procure their repeal, supposing, in one of the cases, a repeal practicable: — And as to Poyning's Law in particular, would any person desire more than with becoming temper is argued for, in *Plain Reasons for new modelling Poyning's Law, in such a manner as to assert the ancient Rights of the Two Houses of Parliament, without entrenching on the King's Prerogative*?

181. Is it not under serious consideration to have a national bank, by which only (without an express law, which it might be difficult to obtain, for the purpose) we can hope for the speedy reduction of the interest of money?

182. Are there not some facts and hints on this subject, in a late *Essay concerning the Establishment of a National Bank in Ireland*, well worth attending to?

183. Can we ever trade on an equal footing with Great Britain, or indeed any trading

ing nation in Europe, until the interest of money with us is reduced to, at least, five per cent. per ann.?

184. Must not the value of lands rise, as the interest of money sinks; and can either happen until we have more money in the circle?

185. Among other arguments for inducing gentlemen of property to adopt such measures as may realize the just profits of their estates, is there not one at least, and a good one, urged in a sensible, spirited, and brief manner, by the very late author of *The Strong Box opened, or a Fund at home for the immediate Employment of our People, and for preventing Emigration*; inscribed to D-n-s D-ly, Esq;?

186. Does it yet remain a doubt, that the distinction of a landed and a commercial interest is a most dangerous idea, and, if we may judge from appearances, generally least understood by those whom it most concerns?

187. Has not another late writer, in his *Observations on the Finances and Trade of Ireland, humbly addressed to the immediate consideration of Gentlemen of Landed Interest, more particularly to Members of the House of Commons*; made it sufficiently plain, that "the value of land depends so much upon commerce, that whatever tax
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or restraint you impose upon trade, falls intirely, if not with double weight, upon the landed interest?"

188. Whether he is singular in the publication of such an opinion; or whether there was occasion for prefixing an *if* to double weight?

189. Whether it is not of the highest importance, to consider well what are *The First Lines of Ireland's Interest in the year 1780*; and whether another late writer, under that title, has not with laudable zeal and much energy, said many true and sensible things upon that subject?

190. Whether, among the first lines, there can be one more important than a serious and sacred attention to the due improvement of agriculture; and whether, among a variety of sister subjects, there are not some important facts, and many well-intended hints well and warmly expressed upon this subject, in *Cursory Observations upon Ireland*—by a Member of the Dublin Society?

191. Whether a non-importation or rather a non-consumption scheme, respecting all goods of foreign growth, production, or manufacture, which we have no necessary occasion for, and cannot again be exported to advantage, if voluntarily entered into with judgment, good temper, and a strict regard
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to the rights and privileges of every individual, would not be followed by the most salutary effects; and whether (passing by those observations and arguments which are now no longer necessary to be kept in view), there are not some good reasons advanced to this effect, in *a letter*, some time ago addressed to the people of Ireland, on the expediency and necessity of the present associations in Ireland, in favour of her own manufactures, &c.?

192. Whether it would be agreeable to the nature of a Free-trade, that merchants or retailers should be brought under any obligation, not to import or sell such goods as they may find their account in, or that they should be liable to any censure or violence on that score?

193. Would it not be sufficient, and as much as true patriotism requires, that ladies and gentlemen should bind themselves to give, at all times, a preference to the produce and manufactures of their own country, upon being as well and cheaply served, or nearly so, as with those of any other country?

194. Whether to do this would, or should give offence to our Elder Sister, lately become just, and even generous: and whether to do more, would not (as appearances already

ready indicate) only transfer a monopoly for the private advantage of a few men, without a sure prospect of much real improvement in manufactures?

195. Whether if retailers can serve their customers, and make a living profit to themselves by the sale of our own manufactures, they can then be under any temptation to import from other countries, bearing all expences and duties, and obliged to pay the cost with the greatest punctuality: does it not therefore depend upon the users and consumers,—not upon the importers or retailers, to encourage or discourage our own produce and manufactures?

196. Whether there be any proper foundation for the opinion, that foreign goods, if allowed to be imported, would be sold for our own; unless such foreign goods are lowered in their prices, and, at same time, the prices of our own, of equal quality, are raised beyond what they formerly cost, when there was less encouragement for them?

197. Whether, on the contrary, it is not probable that importation being unrestrained, Irish goods, if well made, and even porter if well brewed and managed, would often be put off for foreign manufacture to such as had a partiality, whether well or ill founded, for the latter; and would not this
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sort of fraud, which, perhaps, might be practised without the design or possibility of reaping extraordinary profits, even serves to encourage our own manufactures?

198. Is it not then clear, that nothing but a much better pennyworth to the user, could give encouragement to the importation of foreign goods; and is it not equally clear, that without some kind of cheque and rivalry, our own would soon mount up to exorbitant prices?

199. Upon the supposition that equal prices for our finest-made cloths to those of England should soon come to be paid, and from combinations to use such only, a permanency in this branch might be counted on by the manufacturer; is it not to be feared, that this would prevent the necessary efforts in preparing such cloths and stuffs as we have the best chance of succeeding with at foreign markets; and whether such an effect would not render the extension of our woollen manufacture altogether nugatory?

200. Whether the Dublin Society have not wisely, as well as generously, decreed premiums for various species of this manufacture, to be executed at not less than the distances of 20 and 10 miles either from the cities of Dublin or Cork; and how far it is for the interest of the manufacturers, or

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that of the nation, to have those manufactures, intended for exportation, carried on in such large cities?

201. Whether the success with which the most spirited and laudable endeavours of that truly patriotic society are crowned, be sufficiently known to the public; and whether any fund is, or should be allotted for defraying the expence of publishing their transactions?

202. Whether, if no better scheme hath been devised, it might not prove salutary, to a country emerging from all those distresses which a restrained trade and an imperfect police hath kept her in, or brought upon her, that a general subscription should be set on foot for enabling the society to publish the most valuable parts of their past transactions, and have them sold at so low a rate as should tempt every sensible manufacturer and tradesman to become purchasers; and whether their future transactions might not be published upon an annual or half yearly subscription?

203. Would not frequent and regular publications of this kind have a natural and powerful tendency to keep men's minds employed upon useful subjects, and prove the source of gradual advancement in arts and commerce?

204. Whether

204. Whether it is not possible, by vigorous exertions, greatly to improve the quality of our native wool, so as to render us less dependant, at least, and, perhaps, in time altogether so, of importations from Spain, for the manufacture of superfine cloths; and whether a late publication by *Anderson of Scotland*, in a series of letters on the means of increasing industry, re-printed here, might not be perused to advantage on this subject?

205. Whether small premiums to this effect would be attended with great exertions; and whether it is not more likely that only a few individuals might thereby acquire some hundred pounds for doing little than that the woollen manufacture would receive any great and permanent advantage from trials so made?

206. Whether it might not be made appear to parliament that there are probable grounds for supposing the before mentioned improvement in the wool of this country an attainable thing; and whether, if so, the purchase of a lasting benefit, of that kind, could be made at too dear a rate?

207. Whether a reward of ten thousand pounds to any one person who should fairly introduce it, or go the nearest to that degree of perfection, would not be well laid out money?

208. Whether,

208. Whether, to that end, the Dublin Society might not be enabled, by a resolution of the house, to promise such a reward, annexing the conditions of it?

209. Whether, among the conditions, the following, should not be inserted, viz. that samples not under one hundred stone weight, each, should be produced for three successive years, the first sample not sooner than at the distance of five years from the publication of the premium;—that the sheep from which the wool was clipped, if not of our own breed, had been, at least, two years in Ireland before the wool taken from them made part of the sample;—and that the whole sum of ten thousand pounds should be given to the person, who, (without purchasing sheep from any country or person for the space of one year before production of the first sample; sheep from any country or person for the space of two years before production of the third sample; or wool from any country or person for the space of four years before production of the third and last sample) should produce and prove the quality of the greatest quantity?

210. Whether it might not be practicable to prevent any imposition upon the society or public in this matter, by rules laid down for ascertaining the claim?

211. Whether

211. Whether the most scrupulous attention to every punctilio could be justly complained of, considering the greatness of the objects both to the claimant and the public?

212. Whether the most vigorous efforts of many individuals to obtain a premium, which after all is given to one only, should be considered as a hardship; or whether, in fact, the experiment would be attended with any material loss?

213. Whether it is not most probable, that a well-directed attention to that great object would meet with a sufficient reward, in the knowledge and improvements it would introduce with regard to the proper breed, pasture, and management of sheep, which produce the finest wool, and in greatest quantities?

214. Whether it were prudent to attempt the proof of so great an improvement, at a shorter term than that of seven years?

215. Whether it is not of great consequence, that proper places should be sought out and recommended to settlers for carrying on the woollen manufactory, not in great companies and with capitals for commanding success, for such will find their own way, but for the poorest weavers, whose whole

whole stock lies in their ingenuity and industry?

216. Whether landlords, farmers, and artificers, of every kind, whose present residence is in the country, could serve their own interests more effectually than by seeking out and encouraging such poor settlers?

217. Whether landholders would not find it their greatest interest to give long and advantageous leases of small spots of ground, and, at a moderate interest for the money laid out, to build houses for the comfortable accommodation of those settlers, whose industry, if not nipped in the bud, would soon convert barren lands into fruitful fields, from single houses spread out into villages, and from villages into towns abounding with every necessary and comfort of life?

218. Whether, further, it would not be greatly for the advantage of landlords, as well as the nation, to find a supply to those poor people whose honesty might be fairly presumed, of small sums of money, not only to furnish utensils where wanted, but even to buy wool and yarn wherewith all hands might immediately go to work?

219. Whether among the first happy effects of such settlements, a spirit would not arise in every family, for purchasing wool,
spinning

spinning it themselves, and getting it wrought at their own doors, for their own cloathing at least, and, at times, for sale to pay the landlord's rent, and purchase such things as they wanted, and could not, without such means of industry, procure?

220. Whether the great manufacturers, or manufacturing towns, could be hurt by such establishments in the country; or, whether it is not certain that such would prove an advantage to them, by supplying a continual and plentiful nursery of hands, which would keep wages low, and, by the increase of industry, bring an increased demand for the articles of their manufacture?

221. Whether it would not be greatly for the interest of the manufacturers and retailers of woollen goods, to content themselves with small profits on the piece, by which they would infallibly prevent importations of fine goods, secure encouragement for exportation of coarse goods, greatly increase their trade, and render it permanently advantageous both to themselves and their country?

222. Whether, without a conviction of their sincere intentions to be guided by that infallible rule, it would be either just or politically wise to discourage, by any means, the open importation of goods of equal quality, which come cheaper to market?

223. Would

223. Would it not, however, be both just and prudent, when our woollen manufacture shall come to a certain degree of perfection, and gives the rational prospect of a full supply, at equal or lower rates than elsewhere is to be met with; that, then we should discourage, by every fair, and every legal method in our power, the importation of foreign goods, to prevent our own manufacture from declining? And

224. Whether our manufacturers should ask more, or expect less?

225. Whether master manufacturers of Dublin and other cities, might not be obliged to save out of the accustomed wages of their journeymen, a small fund, to be properly secured, and applied to these mens relief in times of sickness, dearth, or slackness of work;—and whether a penny per shilling, would not answer this end, without pinching any well employed workman?

226. Whether it would not be a just and necessary charity to the families of idle and squandering workmen, to have such a fund in bank, against their days of need?

227. Whether it is not material towards the perfection of arts, and the support of industry, that every corporation should take the charge of maintaining its own poor?

228. Whether

228. Whether to suffer industrious, or capable men to become beggars, or trust for support to charity at large, be not the sure way to make or keep, in beggary a whole nation?

229. Whether, in this country, where more work remains to be done, than there are yet hands for, begging should, in any instance, be tolerated?

230. Whether, to this effect of employing the poor, and greatly increasing the nation's wealth, many good hints may not be taken from a late pamphlet, by J. C. titled *The neglected wealth of Ireland explored, &c.*?

231. Whether it is possible that manufactures can thrive, without a constant and strict attention to agriculture in all its progressive steps and dependencies, by which the landlord may have his rent, the tenant a comfortable living, and the poor artists wholesome food at cheap rates?

232. Whether long leases, easy fines, good houses, moderate rents, and no greater quantity of ground than the tenant has strength to stock and fully occupy, are not absolutely necessary in order to secure a good tenantry, a well paid and permanent rent to the landlord, and to produce abundance of provisions both for home consumption and export?

I

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230. Whether, to this effect of employing the poor, and greatly increasing the nation's wealth, many good hints may not be taken from a late pamphlet, by J. C. titled *The neglected wealth of Ireland explored, &c.*?

231. Whether it is possible that manufactures can thrive, without a constant and strict attention to agriculture in all its progressive steps and dependencies, by which the landlord may have his rent, the tenant a comfortable living, and the poor artists wholesome food at cheap rates?

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I

233. Whether

233. Whether until those happy effects are seen and felt, it would not be advisable for the immediate benefit of manufacturers, and other labouring poor, that considerable additional duties were laid upon beef, butter, pork, and tallow at exportation; so as without discouraging necessary exportation, to sink the prices for home consumption?

234. Whether, in fact, strangers and foreigners would not be the only losers by this measure; and whether, in consequence it would not, in effect, bring in a very considerable sum to the nation annually, besides a great increase of revenue, which might be appropriated to several useful purposes?

235. Whether, upon an average of seven years past, the quantities of those articles exported have been so great, that an easy additional tax upon them would not have amounted to about 60,000*l.* per annum; and, if so appropriated, might have relieved the poor of the hearth-money tax; and whether such a thing may not yet be taken into consideration?

236. Whether, if the hearth-money tax were taken off, it would not, in most cases, put just so much money into the pockets of landlords, whose rents must be the worse paid while that tax continues?

237. Whether,

237. Whether, should the additional duties on beef, butter, pork, and tallow, ever fall greatly short of 60,000l. per ann. this could however happen, but from such an increase of good living among the common people as must be the consequence of thriving manufactures and a flourishing trade, which could not fail to provide resources for supplying the deficiency in a variety of ways?

238. Whether an additional tax on butter exported would not give the poor a better chance of procuring some of it to eat, and at times a bit of cheese; and whether an English porter would not hang himself sooner than be deprived of both daily?

239. Whether, as the poor who work for them should be able to put on cheap shoes, and as shoes, now exported free to America, may become a very profitable article of export trade, is it not deserving of consideration, how far it might be proper and safely practicable, to discourage the exportation of hides both tanned and raw, especially the latter?

240. Would it be attended with any national loss, to lay an additional duty of two shillings and sixpence upon every raw hide exported to any place whatever, and one shilling and sixpence on every tanned one, except perhaps to Great Britain, whose

people being part of ourselves, we might serve at one shilling less per tanned hide; and would not this tax increase the revenue from seven to ten thousand pounds a year?

241. Among other reasons for planting trees, is it not a special one, that we may procure bark, without importing it at a great national expence, for tanning our leather?

242. Whether, while attention is paid to encourage, by all practicable means, the industrious poor, it is not equally necessary to remove, as far as may be, every obstacle to their acquiring that certain degree of wealth, without which industry must sicken, and life prove comfortless, the hopes of affluence, or rising in the world being, by any means, cut off?

243. Among those obstacles in this country, may it not be suspected as one, the great number (and consequently a heavy tax upon the poor) of Roman Catholic priests, much greater, probably, than the unrestrained exercise of their religion requires?

244. Could it be deemed severe to attempt lessening their number to some just proportion; and whether this may not, in time, be very practicable?

245. The toleration now wisely and humanely granted to Roman Catholics being considered

considered as a permanent thing, why should not the clergy of that faith have something like an establishment, or certain annual income, for necessary subsistence; are they not, at present, obliged to dig out a living in their own way, nobody knows how or how much, but partly, perhaps, by assistance from powers abroad, and upon which assistance it cannot be the interest of these lands to have such a dependence for supporting any one inhabitant?

246. Could not, then, the gentlemen of each county devise a way for providing a certain number of priests, of good character and behaviour, with decent salaries upon a few such conditions as these—that they should not in time to come exact from, or accept of from the labouring poor, money or goods to any extent, or upon any pretence whatever—that they should discourage, to the utmost of their power, all connection between their people and any other priest not so established and provided for—that they should accept of no salary from any foreign power whatever, directly or indirectly—that they should, personally, make their appearance at the parish church, as established by law, once a month at least, and exhort their people to do the same—that, upon a well-grounded confidence of their observing these conditions faithfully,
annual

annual provision would continue to be made for them; otherwise their salaries to be withheld?

247. Could any injury arise to the protestant religion from such a measure; would it not tend rather to the security of it, as then the temptation to make proselytes would cease,—christian charity increase,—more enlarged sentiments would dispel the mists of bigotry and superstition,—the people become more independant and industrious,—and, in fine, would not the state become, thereby, both enriched and secured, in a considerable degree?

248. If this scheme should seem to deserve consideration, could not the necessary sum be raised in any one of two or three different ways, either of which, 'tis probable, would turn out much to the advantage of gentlemen who have lands to farm out, houses to let, or manufactures upon their grounds, in the prosperity of which they could think themselves concerned?

249. May it not be considered as another capital obstacle to the well-doing of the common people,—manufacturers' journeymen especially, that they have it in their power to run in debt for superfluities, and are, thereby, subjected to imprisonment and every sort of distress?

250. Could not a law remedy this evil, at one stroke, by discharging all prosecution
against

against them, except for debts their masters shall have become bound; and by obliging their respective corporation to provide for them, when sick, out of funds to be set apart for that purpose? — And,

251. Without the aid of any other law than such as every corporation can make, for the benefit of its own members, and consistent with the public good, might not the sobriety and diligence of journeymen be made the conditions of their being taken care of when sick, and supported in old age?

252. Whether the laws for the encouragement of tillage, and for supplying the city of Dublin with corn and flour have had, as far as might have been expected, their full and proper effects?

253. Whether, while bounties are given both for inland carriage, and on corn exported, the presentments of the grand juries should not be full and particular, as to the medium prices, as nearly as can be calculated;—and whether these should not be regularly published, by authority, in some Dublin news paper, and in the news paper of the place or that nearest the place which the presentment regards; for, otherwise, how can it be known where the best market is for buying, or the fittest ports to export from; or, while there is plenty in the South parts of the island, may they not be
starving

starving in the North, or obliged to import from Scotland or England?

254. Whether to prevent frauds in the payment of bounties a monthly return is made to the commissioners of the revenue, of all corn shipped off, either with or without a claim for bounty, and of all corn discharged, at every port in Ireland, either as having come coastways, or from foreign parts?

255. Whether, as the most certain method of procuring such return, a small duty should not be laid on all corn, both at shipping and delivery, when sent coastways?

256. Whether such a tax would not operate rather to the improvement of tillage than the contrary, as it is surely for the nation's benefit (individuals out of the question) that more bounty should be paid on a large quantity actually produced and exported, than upon a small quantity produced, and not *certainly* exported, or upon only a small quantity capable of exportation, which it might distress our own people to have sent off?

257. Whether, for the further encouragement of tillage, the ports should not, generally, continue shut against importation of corn, unless at other or higher duties on foreign corn than hath yet been laid on, with powers vested in the lord lieutenant and privy council, or in the board of revenue,

nue, to open the ports for a limited time, upon proof adduced of such necessity?

258. Whether such a measure of having the ports generally shut against importation, and opened by authority, only, is not agreeable to the present law and practice in Scotland?

259. Whether, from experience, it is not, now, a clear point, that the more corn we can export upon bounty, care being taken that the requisites of law be exactly performed, particularly respecting the market prices at shipping, the cheaper, it must, generally, come to the consumers at home; and whether, consequently, it is not of great national importance that the laws respecting the exportation, importation, inland carriage, and navigation coastways of corn, be good and well executed?

260. Whether, to prevent dearth, by an excessive drain upon sudden demands from abroad, or from public calamities at home, there should not be certain market prices fixed by law (higher than those at which corn may be exported *upon* bounty) below which only, corn may lawfully be exported *without* bounty?

261. Whether sugar is not become, as well as corn, one of the necessities of life; and whether a tax upon that article, which should naturally have the effect to raise the

price to every consumer, could be considered as a national benefit, however advantageous it might, perhaps, be to individuals?

262. Whether this question can apply to the tax which sugar must be subjected to, at importation from the British Plantations, in order to equalize the English duty?

263. Whether the Irish sugar refiner may not be able to purchase raw sugars at as cheap a rate from the Irish importer of such, as formerly he did from the British merchant, all circumstances considered; and if he cannot, will he not have recourse to the British merchant still?

264. If the Irish sugar-refiner carried on business with great success, when he had but one market to go to for raw sugars, and when, from the same market, refined sugars were poured in upon him, which, no doubt, cramped his trade and obstructed his profits; how can he be a sufferer when, now, he will have a choice of two markets for the purchase of raw, and no new one opened against him for the importation of refined sugars?

265. Should a high duty be laid on the importation of English refined sugars, who knows to what height the price of refined sugars might rise here, even without supposing any thing so improbable as a combination among our own sugar refiners to advance

advance their prices; for is not the importation from the British plantations liable to many accidents, especially in time of war, which might necessarily occasion a great rise in the price; and should we raise the duties upon the English refined sugars might *they* not, naturally enough, raise the price of raw sugars upon us; would it not be politically wise, and not unjust, in them to do so?

266. Would it not, at least, be prudent to make a fair trial of the sugar trade without imposing any new duties on importations from England?

267. Upon the supposition that the Portuguese government should really make a point of our passing their wines with the like difference of duties, respecting French wines, as the English do; how could this be accomplished, supposing, also, that we should think it for our interest to humour them, but, either by raising the duties on French, or lowering those on Portugal wine; and which of these two would be most for the interest of Ireland?

268. Whether Irishmen who have been long accustomed to the juice of the French grape, would chuse to part with it for that of Portugal, upon any terms?

269. Whether claret, considering the quantities of it drunk, by many who can

but ill afford that mark of gentility, is not a dear wine at any price; and, therefore, whether by high duties the consumption of it might not, upon rational principles of taxation, be left in the hands of the great and rich?

270. Whether such a difference of duties would in time increase the consumption of port, in the same proportion (not in quantity of liquor, but in the number of drinkers) as it might be expected the consumption of claret would decrease, were the duties on the latter to be raised?

271. Whether raising the duties on claret would, or would not, increase smuggling?

272. Whether the present high duties on port wine do not occasion much smuggling?

273. Whether the revenue would suffer material damage, were the duties on port wine to be very considerably reduced?

274. Whether, should an export trade to Portugal be really dependent upon, or even only promoted by such reduction, this would not justify the measure, as far as it concerns the revenue?

275. Whether, now that it is to be hoped less wool than formerly will be smuggled into France, the price of French wine may not probably rise *in price* upon us?

276. Whether the French can probably have any similar argument to that of the Portuguese,

Portuguese, for inducing an alteration of duties, in their favour?

277. Whether, at present, our trade with France is not intirely in their favour?

278. Whether our trade with France has any chance of being in our favour, until we can export to them tobacco of the growth of the British plantations?

279. Whether it is not an object deserving our consideration, to have the ability of exporting to France, tobacco of the growth of the British plantations?

280. Whether, as soon as practicable, the sentiments of a very late writer, respecting the best mode of taxation, in his *Observations on the Finances and Trade of Ireland, &c.* are not deserving of very serious consideration; and whether, in the mean time, many things may not very properly be done, which are not contrary to, but may coincide with any general good mode that shall either be adhered to, or adopted?

281. Is it not demonstrable that we should tax as slightly as possible, if taxed at all they must be, the raw materials of manufactures, especially such manufactures as we have a national dependence upon at their exportation?

282. Is it not sufficiently clear that the luxuries of life, for home-consumption, are the most safe and deserving subjects of taxation?

283. Does

283. Does it admit of doubt, that those taxes which are collected with the greatest certainty, and the least expence, are, from these circumstances, the least oppressive to the subject, and most eligible for support of the revenue?

284. Can any proposition be more clearly demonstrated to those who will take the trouble of considering it, than this, that tax what article you please, either of export or import, the amount of that tax must ultimately be paid by the land-holder, either out of his rent, or the price of his land when sold, allowance being also made for that difference in the manner of living which we see among proprietors, or any difference which can be figured?

285. Should a young gentleman, while at his studies in Trinity College, Dublin, whose only fund for education, &c. is an estate, twenty miles distant from the sea, and whose expences are confined to those of board, tuition, cloaths and pocket-money,—should he fondly imagine that he has no concern with the duties or taxes on export and import, how greatly would he not be mistaken; does his estate produce any thing to him until part of that produce is consumed, and the rest both sold and bought; can it be consumed, or sold, by those who do not use wood, iron, flax, hemp, tar, hogs' bristles, &c. which pay duties at im-
portation,

portation, and sold to those who either navigate ships, or import, or retail those goods, who must use corn, beef, butter, &c. and who can afford only such prices for what they consume, as the prices of their labour and goods sold may allow, the duties they paid being charged on the goods?

Do not his board and tuition bear some proportion to the expences of those who accommodate him with both, (though less, perhaps, in his present situation than in any other he ever can be) and as far as they use or consume what has been imported and paid duties,—must not their charge be so far advanced—must he not have hat, hair-bag of silk, cloaths, sword, buckles, buttons, &c. which pay duties; does he not purchase these from various persons who drink wine, spirits, porter, who use tea, sugar, spiceries, groceries of all sorts, drugs, tobacco, snuff, &c. &c. which also pay duties; do not those things come home by ships, whose masts, ropes, oars, &c. pay duties; must not every different hand through which these things go, have payment of the duties, with interest for advance, a premium for the insurance of bad debts, and what is called a living profit upon them; does not even the student then pay his proportion of every duty on every article of trade that is taxed, with his proportion of every advance in the price, the consequence
of

of taxes—and all this, however few articles he himself may use, because he pays the taxes of every person connected with every person with whom he deals--an endless chain?

286. How far then would 1000*l.* a year go, without taxes on trade, compared to its present stretch ; whether the gentleman of estate does not, at this moment, pay out more than one half his clear rent, in taxes on trade and their *unavoidable* consequences ; and how little of this, comparatively, goes or can go into the public treasury, whatever possible œconomy may be shewn in the expences of management ?

287. Whether taxes on livery-servants, riding-horses, cards, dice, and places of public resort, would be liable to the like inconveniencies as taxes on trade ; and whether it were not the interest of all men of estate, to promote high taxes on these articles of voluntary luxury, which would keep more money in their pockets than such assessments can possibly draw out ?

288. Whether card-money is not the most exceptionable, and the most hurtful kind of vails, considering the height it has come to ; and whether at least some degree of reformation should not, among other necessary modes of œconomy, be attempted ?

289. Whether twenty thousand shillings put under the candlestick, *in one evening*, do
not

not make one thousand pounds British money?

290. How many of those thousands would it require to set a hundred thousand men to work upon the fishing coasts of Ireland; and supposing them to gain but one shilling each per day, would not this (Sundays and holidays excepted) produce about one million four hundred thousand pounds per ann. almost clear gain to the nation?

291. Whether to establish a fishery requires more than willing hands, houses to live in, boats, nets, salt, casks, and a little money for the first outfit, leaving it to time and industry to provide the best accommodations, and the greatest plenty of good materials?

292. Whether the bounty to fishing-busses has answered the intention of parliament; and whether it can do so, until the nature and quantity of fishing-tackle is specified by law—until a period of time is fixed, under which a *continued* fishing shall not be entitled to bounty—or the bounty, if not so limited, to bear proportion to the quantity actually caught and cured?

293. Whether the actual fishers in small boats, not within the act for bounty, ought not to be encouraged; and in what shape this may best be done; could not the

L

gentlemen

gentlemen and merchants whose interests are concerned in the success of fisheries, find out the means of setting men to work, and encouraging them to keep at it?

294. Might not a number of valuable hands be obtained from our charter, and other charity schools, who, after a *very short apprenticeship*, would find the sweets of application to the fishing trade; and might not encouragement also, if necessary, be offered to some of our poor neighbours in the western parts of Scotland, and islands, who are well acquainted with the fishing business, and whose demands would probably be moderate enough?

295. Can we exceed in proper endeavours to extend our fishing, and thereby our trade in every branch, by raising a nursery of hardy seamen, for our prosperity in peace, and our defence in times of war?

296. Is it fit that in future we should depend solely on the Board of Admiralty in England, for the convoy and protection of our trade, and even for the security of our packet-boats 'twixt Dublin-bay and Holyhead?

297. Were it not better that we should enter into covenant, for such measure of protection as we judge absolutely necessary in the narrow seas; and is not this very practicable?

298. Might

298. Might not five frigates of 36 guns each, with the assistance of our revenue cruizers, properly fitted up, be sufficient on all ordinary occasions, if properly stationed round the island; and would not £60,000 per annum, at most, be esteemed a sufficient allowance for defraying the expence of those frigates, solely appropriated to our coasts in war time?

299. Will not that increase of revenue, which our enlarged trade, and new duties must soon bring, enable us to set apart such a sum, with the approbation of our most gracious sovereign; and would not a much smaller annual sum so appropriated, and set apart, in times of peace, enable us to discharge the war establishment, without feeling it?

300. When the course of the Doder shall be altered, could we not have a dry dock at Rings-end, for the repair of frigates,—another at Kinsale, and stations for them all around the island?

301. Would it not prove a real and great conveniency to the inhabitants of Dublin to have a draw-bridge across the Liffey as far down as the lower Ferry-Boat Slip, or lower; and as diverting the course of the Doder may probably have the good effect to clear our Bar of sand, would not such a bridge contribute to the future safety of
our

our shipping in the harbour, both as an obstruction against daring privateers in a dark night, and as a station for placing batteries of defence?

302. Is it not now, also, an object deserving high attention, to encrease shipping of our own building; and, to this end, some ease given in the high duties paid at importation of timber, masts, oars, tar, turpentine, &c. these being raw materials; how else shall we prosecute a foreign trade to much advantage?

303. Does it remain a doubt, after all that Davenant, Decker, Child, Lock, Munn, and others have wrote—and which the experience of other nations have proved, that a prosperous foreign trade cannot be supported without plenty of shipping, cheap freights and good and cheap manufactures,—that good and cheap manufactures cannot be had without plenty of cheap provisions, and easy taxes,—that plenty of good and cheap provisions cannot be had without moderate land-rents and a well improved tillage—that a judicious foreign trade brings plenty of money,—plenty of money sinks the rate of interest, and raises the price of land—that fisheries must promote foreign trade, and be attended with the highest advantages that any trade can bring to a nation situated as Ireland is—that industry is
the

the source of all wealth, and the due culture of land the only sure foundation of all industry—that high interest of money is the greatest bar to extension of trade,—and consequently that a well regulated national bank (which should not require “*three hundred directors*”) by supplying money at an interest below the legal rate, must be productive of every advantage to the landlord, manufacturer, merchant, and to the whole body of the people?

304. Would any person wish to be fully satisfied of all these things, and a great many more particulars, at an easy expence both of money and time, could he do better than peruse the Bishop of Cloyne’s *Quest*, and—his *Word to the Wise*?

305. Might it not be one of the most necessary marks of wisdom, in this country, to bestow every possible attention upon that capital, and, from the experience of ages, (except in Holland) most difficult object, *the full and constant employment of the poor, young and old*? — And,

306. Should it not be attended with many happy effects, were a standing committee selected from the members of the Dublin Society, and joined by merchants, manufacturers, tradesmen, and men of good character in any profession, to erect themselves into a society, and meet at least once
a month,

a month, for no other purpose than to propose, deliberate upon, and concert measures, for the full employment of the common people in every place and corner of the island; to the success of which shall not every sensible and humane mind say, *Amen?*

Postscript. — It being the privilege and practice of Volunteers in arms, to chuse their own leaders, and their practice at least to recommend those they esteem worthiest, for guides to others; upon the same principle, may not the Volunteer-Author of the foregoing Queries be indulged the liberty he has taken, of pointing out such leaders and guides as he thinks most likely to conduct us with wisdom and fortitude in that *commercial strife*, which it now concerns us much to engage and persist in with unremitting ardour—especially as some of them, both of the veteran and junior order, will bring along with them such *magazines* of stores and ammunition, as may not only be necessary to serve the common cause but prove singularly useful to *privates?*

F I N I S.

6 DE 58

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